

## Claims

- [c1] 1. A self-erecting and debris collecting device comprising:
  - a base member constructed to rest on a surface;
  - a gas generating member;
  - an inflatable member in fluid communication with the gas generating element; and
  - a signal member which is erected by the inflatable member, the signal member constructed and arranged to provide a receptacle for debris.
- [c2] 2. A device of Claim 1 wherein the inflatable member is in the signal member.
- [c3] 3. A device of Claim 1 wherein the signal member is connected to the inflatable member.
- [c4] 4. A device of Claim 1 wherein the signal member is a flexible, expandable, pyramidal blanket overlying the base.
- [c5] 5. A device of Claim 1 wherein base includes a liquid absorbent material.
- [c6] 6. A device of Claim 1 wherein the gas generating mem-

ber includes a sachet of dry gas generating powders and a sachet of water.

- [c7] 7. A device of Claim 1 wherein the signal member is connected to the base and an apex of the inflatable member and rises over the base on inflation of the inflatable member.
- [c8] 8. The device of Claim 1 wherein the receptacle includes an opening extending over a portion of the base member.
- [c9] 9. The device of Claim 8 wherein the base member includes a beveled edge positioned adjacent the opening.
- [c10] 10. The device of Claim 1 wherein the signal member includes a handle.
- [c11] 11. The device of Claim 1 wherein the outer member is expanded to a pyramidal configuration.
- [c12] 12. A self-erecting and debris collecting device comprising:
  - a signal member, the signal member constructed and arranged to provide a receptacle for debris;
  - an inflatable member, the signal member connected to the inflatable member;
  - a self-contained expandable member, the inflatable

member constructed and arranged to be inflated by the self-contained expandable member; and  
a base member, the inflatable member connected to the base member.

- [c13] 13. The device of Claim 12 wherein the base member includes an absorbent member constructed and arranged to absorb liquid and spills on a surface.
- [c14] 14. The device of Claim 12 wherein the expandable member includes an expandable system comprised of a liquid and an expandable member which expands when contacted with the liquid, the first and second members being separated by a breachable member to provide contact between the liquid and the expandable member.
- [c15] 15. The device of Claim 14 wherein the liquid is water and the expandable member is a sponge.
- [c16] 16. The device of Claim 12 wherein the expandable member includes water and a first material and second material which when mixed with the water react to produce a gas, the materials being separated by a breachable member.
- [c17] 17. The device of Claim 16 wherein the inflatable member is comprised of a gas impervious flexible material.

- [c18] 18. The device of Claim 16 wherein the inflatable member is a latex balloon.
- [c19] 19. The self-erecting device as defined in Claim 16 wherein the inflatable member comprises gas impervious material and wherein the inflatable member has a tubular configuration when inflated.
- [c20] 20. The device of Claim 19 wherein the signal member includes warning indicia.
- [c21] 21. A method of cleaning up a spill and debris on a floor while signaling the spill employing the device of Claim 1.
- [c22] 22. A method of cleaning up a spill and debris on a floor while signaling its location employing the device of Claim 12.